

Legal Writing & Research II

Spring 2013 Syllabus

(1x/week classes)

Class Session	Topic	Required Reading	Assignments
14-Jan	Introduction to Course; Shifting to Persuasion; Plan Research for Settlement Letter; Discuss Research Process; Writing a Settlement Letter.	Read Sample Settlement Letter posted on Lexis Course Web Page; Edwards: Chapter 16	Six Word Essay" due (assignment posted on Lexis Course Web Page) (Ungraded Assignment); Instructions for Settlement Letter and Client Email are also posted on the Lexis Course Web Page.
21-Jan	No Class - MLK Day		
All students must attend mandatory Lexis training during the week of January 28. Register online. 28-Jan	Discuss Research Results; Developing and Emphasizing a Theme for Settlement; Persuasive Facts and Rules; Discuss Client Email.	Edwards Chapter 22	Research Results Due: (1) case briefs of at least 2 relevant cases; (2) outline of any relevant statutes. (Ungraded Assignment)
All students must attend Westlaw training during the week of February 4. Register online. 4-Feb	Finalizing the Settlement Letter and Client Email; Career Services Presentation		
All students must attend Bloomberg training during the week of February 11. Sign-up sheets available in the library. 11-Feb	Introduction to the Appellate Brief; Judge as Reader; Discuss Research Plan for Final Appellate Brief; Drafting a Persuasive Rule and Statement of Facts for a brief; Argument Paradigm	Read the following article: Clyde H. Hamilton, Effective Appellate Brief Writing, 50 S.C. L. Rev. 581 (1999); Edwards: Chapter 17 and 18 pp. 265-276	Settlement Letter and Client Email Due (20% of final LWR II grade); Material for Final Appellate Brief will be posted on Lexis Web Page.

	18-Feb No Class - Presidents Day		
25-Feb	Drafting Questions Presented and Argument Headings; Introduction to Standards of Review; Introduction to Oral Argument; Discuss Research Results	Edwards: Chapter 19, 21 (pg 330-335), 24	<u>Summary of 6 most important authorities for use in Appellate Brief (ungraded assignment)</u>
Legislative Day - Monday classes meet instead of Tuesday classes 2/26/2012	Using Cases Effectively in Brief Writing (Re/A); Oral Argument (UNGRADED ASSIGNMENT)	Edwards: Chapter 20, 21 (pp. 321-328)	
4-Mar	Large Scale Organization of the Brief; Addressing Adverse Authority and Opposing Arguments; Conclusion; Peer Review of Draft Statement of Facts and Question Presented; Citing Supporting Authority within the Appellate Brief.	Edwards Chapter 23	Outline of Argument Section Due (ungraded assignment); Draft Statement of Facts and QP due (ungraded assignment)
11-Mar	No Class - spring break		
18-Mar	Oral Argument (UNGRADED ASSIGNMENT)		FIRST DRAFT DUE: "Argument" section of Final Appellate Brief due (with Argument Headings) (20% of final LWR II grade) Additional Material for Final Appellate Brief will be posted on Lexis Web Page.

25-Mar	Summary of Argument; Discuss new material for final brief; All the other parts of the Brief (Table of Contents, Certificate of Service, etc.)	Edwards: Chapter 21 (pg 335-336)	
1-Apr	Editing & Revising; Moot Court Members Panel; Moot Court Competition Prep.		
8-Apr	Mandatory Conferences		
15-Apr	Oral Argument (Ungraded Assignment); Finalizing the Appellate Brief		
22-Apr	In Lieu of Class this week, each student will be scheduled to present their Final Oral Argument (10% of final LWR II grade)		Final Appellate Brief Due (40% of final LWR II grade)
29-Apr	Persuasion in Practice - guest speaker;		
Wednesday 5/1/2012	Wednesday, May 1st 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., 1L Moot Court Competition -- Final Rounds -- Darras Moot Court Room.		Faculty, Honors Moot Court Team Members and 1L students are invited to attend the 1L Moot Court Competition Final Rounds in the Darras Moot Court Room Wednesday May 1st 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.